

HOWARD COUNTY 2004 AGRICULTURAL PROFILE

Farm Numbers ¹	1992	1997 ³	2002
Number of Farms	382	369	346
Average Size (acres)	117	112	109
Land in Farms (acres)	44,623	41,501	37,582
Livestock Inventory ¹	1992	1997 ³	2002
Cattle	8,203	6,409	4,266
Hogs	1,730	1,266	263
Sheep	1,081	599	780
2002 Value of Sales ¹			
All Products (\$1,000)			21,661
Nursery & Greenhouse (\$1,000)			11,537
Grains & Oilseeds (\$1,000)			²
Milk (\$1,000)			2,419
Demographic Data ¹	1992	1997 ³	2002
Average Age of Operator	55.9	56.4	56.5
Percent Female Operators	17.0	19.2	28.9
2002 Equine Census			
Number of Equine Places			1,200
Equine Inventory			5,190
Value of Equine Inventory			\$61,265,000

Crop Production Acres Rank among Maryland Counties, 2002 ¹			
Corn for Grain	17	Soybeans	20
Barley	11	Vegetables	19
Forage	12	Wheat	17

Livestock & Poultry Inventories Rank among Maryland Counties, 2002 ¹			
Beef Cattle	12	Milk Cows	12
Broilers	19	Sheep	10
Hogs	18		

¹ Source: Census of Agriculture, NASS.

² Not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

³ Revised.

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Crop	Year	Acreage Harvested	Yield	Total Production
Corn for Grain (bushels)	2002	7,200	87.7	631,200
	2003	5,500	122.9	676,000
	2004	5,900	144.0	849,400
Corn for Silage (tons)	2002	1,000	13.0	13,000
	2003	800	9.0	7,200
	2004	700	23.1	16,200
Soybeans (bushels)	2002	3,800	30.1	114,300
	2003	2,500	38.0	94,900
	2004	4,300	36.5	156,900
Wheat (bushels)	2002	2,100	67.0	140,800
	2003	1,500	41.0	61,500
	2004	1,500	66.5	99,757
Hay (tons)	2002	5,600	2.2	12,200
	2003	5,000	2.6	13,200
	2004	6,100	2.5	15,000
Barley (bushels)	2002	700	76.9	53,800
	2003	600	66.2	39,700
	2004	500	77.0	38,500

* Acreage too small to publish.

	2002	2003	2004
Cropland Cash Rents (per acre)	\$50.58	\$49.52	\$66.18

The National Agricultural Statistics Service is an agency of the United States Department of Agriculture working cooperatively with the Maryland Department of Agriculture in the collection of statistical data for Maryland agriculture. Most data collection results from the voluntary cooperation of Maryland's farmers and other industry representatives. All published results are available through contact with the Maryland Field Office in Annapolis or through their website. Any questions or comments should be directed to Norman Bennett, Director.

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